
SENATE BILL 6129

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senator Snyder

Read first time 02/26/2001. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to the number of members in the house of
2 representatives; and amending RCW 44.05.090.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 44.05.090 and 1990 c 126 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 In the redistricting plan:

7 (1) The commission's plan and any plan adopted by the supreme court
8 under RCW 44.05.100(4) must provide for forty-nine senatorial districts
9 and ninety-nine representative districts.

10 (2) Districts shall have a population as nearly equal as is
11 practicable, excluding nonresident military personnel, based on the
12 population reported in the federal decennial census.

13 ~~((+2))~~ (3) To the extent consistent with subsections (1) and (2)
14 of this section the commission plan should, insofar as practical,
15 accomplish the following:

16 (a) District lines should be drawn so as to coincide with the
17 boundaries of local political subdivisions and areas recognized as
18 communities of interest. The number of counties and municipalities
19 divided among more than one district should be as small as possible;

1 (b) Districts should be composed of convenient, contiguous, and
2 compact territory. Land areas may be deemed contiguous if they share
3 a common land border or are connected by a ferry, highway, bridge, or
4 tunnel. Areas separated by geographical boundaries or artificial
5 barriers that prevent transportation within a district should not be
6 deemed contiguous; and

7 (c) Whenever practicable, a precinct shall be wholly within a
8 single (~~legislative~~) district.

9 (~~((3) The commission's plan and any plan adopted by the supreme
10 court under RCW 44.05.100(4) shall provide for forty nine legislative
11 districts.))~~)

12 (4) The house of representatives shall consist of (~~ninety-eight~~)
13 ninety-nine members, (~~two~~) each of whom shall be elected from and run
14 at large within each (~~legislative~~) representative district. The
15 senate shall consist of forty-nine members, one of whom shall be
16 elected from each (~~legislative~~) senatorial district.

17 (5) The commission shall exercise its powers to provide fair and
18 effective representation and to encourage electoral competition. The
19 commission's plan shall not be drawn purposely to favor or discriminate
20 against any political party or group.

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